# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re: Chapter 11

BIG LOTS, INC., et al., 1 Case No.: 24-11967 (JKS)

Debtors. Jointly Administered

Obj. Deadline: April 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) Hearing Date: *Only if Objections are filed* 

### SUMMARY OF FIFTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF FTI CONSULTING, INC. FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES AS FINANCIAL ADVISORS TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS FOR THE PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Name of Applicant:	FTI Consulting, Inc. ("FTI")		
Authorized to Provide Professional Services to:	The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively the "Debtors")		
Date of Retention:	November 20, 2024 [Docket No. 1186], Effective as of September 25, 2024		
Period for Which Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Is Sought:	February 1, 2025 – February 28, 2025 (the "Compensation Period")		
Total Amount of Compensation Sought as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary (100%):	\$55,460.50		
Amount of Compensation To Be Paid Under Interim Compensation Procedures (80%):	\$44,368.40		
Amount of Compensation To Be Held Back Under Interim Compensation Procedures (20%):	\$11,092.10		

The debtors and debtors in possession in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their respective employer identification numbers, are as follows: Great Basin, LLC (6158); Big Lots, Inc. (9097); Big Lots Management, LLC (7948); Consolidated Property Holdings, LLC (0984); Broyhill LLC (7868); Big Lots Stores-PNS, LLC (5262); Big Lots Stores, LLC (6811); BLBO Tenant, LLC (0552); Big Lots Stores - CSR, LLC(6182); CSC Distribution LLC (8785); Closeout Distribution, LLC (0309); Durant DC, LLC (2033); AVDC, LLC(3400); GAFDC LLC (8673); PAFDC LLC (2377); WAFDC, LLC (6163); INFDC, LLC (2820); Big Lots eCommerce LLC (9612); and Big Lots F&S, LLC (3277). The address of the debtors' corporate headquarters is 4900 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43081.

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Amount of Reimbursement of Expenses Sought as Actual and Necessary:	\$0.00
Total Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Sought:	\$55,460.50
Total Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses To Be Paid Under Compensation Procedures:	\$44,368.40

This is a <u>monthly</u> fee application.

### **SUMMARY OF FEES AND EXPENSES THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2025**

		Requested		Approved	
Date Filed	Period Covered	Fees	Expenses	Fees	Expenses
12/16/2024	9/25/24 - 10/31/24	\$ 1,166,253.00	\$ 139.22	\$ 1,166,253.00	\$ 139.22
12/23/2024	11/1/24 - 11/30/24	570,378.50	-	570,378.50	-
1/23/2025	12/1/24 - 12/31/24	228,482.00	-	228,482.00	-
2/25/2025	1/1/25-1/31/25	101,502.50	-	81,202.00	-
TO	TAL	\$ 2,066,616.00	\$ 139.22	\$ 2,046,315.50	\$ 139.22

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In re:

Chapter 11

BIG LOTS, INC., et al., 1

Case No.: 24-11967 (JKS)

Debtors.

Jointly Administered

Obj. Deadline: April 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) Hearing Date: *Only if Objections are filed* 

FIFTH MONTHLY FEE APPLICATION OF FTI CONSULTING, INC. FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES AS FINANCIAL ADVISORS TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS FOR THE PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedures (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), and the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 519] (the "Interim Compensation Procedures"), FTI Consulting, Inc. ("FTI"), as financial advisor to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee"), of Big Lots, Inc. and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") hereby submits this Monthly Fee Application<sup>2</sup> (the "Application") for actual and necessary professional services rendered in the amount of

The debtors and debtors in possession in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their respective employer identification numbers, are as follows: Great Basin, LLC (6158); Big Lots, Inc. (9097); Big Lots Management, LLC (7948); Consolidated Property Holdings, LLC (0984); Broyhill LLC (7868); Big Lots Stores-PNS, LLC (5262); Big Lots Stores, LLC (6811); BLBO Tenant, LLC (0552); Big Lots Stores - CSR, LLC (6182); CSC Distribution LLC (8785); Closeout Distribution, LLC (0309); Durant DC, LLC (2033); AVDC, LLC (3400) GAFDC LLC (8673); PAFDC LLC (2377); WAFDC, LLC (6163); INFDC, LLC (2820); Big Lots eCommerce LLC (9612); and Big Lots F&S, LLC (3277). The address of the debtors' corporate headquarters is 4900 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43081.

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the definitions ascribed to them in the Interim Compensation Procedures.

\$44,368.40 (80% of \$55,460.50), and \$0.00 of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period from February 1, 2025 through February 28, 2025 (the "Compensation Period"), and hereby requests that the Debtors promptly pay an aggregate amount of \$44,368.40, consisting of 80% of the \$55,460.50 in fees and \$0.00 in expenses, and respectfully represents as follows:

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The United States District Court for the District of Delaware has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, which was referred to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") under 28 U.S.C. § 157 and the Amended Standing Order of Reference from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated February 29, 2012. The Committee confirms its consent, pursuant to Local Rule 9013-1(f), to the entry of a final order by the Court in connection with this Application to the extent that it is later determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments in connection herewith consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
  - 2. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 3. The statutory bases for the relief sought herein are sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2016 and Local Rule 2016-1.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 4. On September 9, 2024, the Debtors filed with this Court their voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.in this Court.
- 5. On September 23, 2024, the Office of the United States Trustee for Region 3 (the "U.S. Trustee") filed the *Notice of Appointment of Committee of Unsecured Creditors* [Docket No. 248]. The Committee members are:
  - a) Realty Income Corporation;
  - b) Blue Owl Real Estate Capital LLC;

- c) America's Realty, LLC.;
- d) Zest Garden Limited;
- e) NCR Voyiz Corporation (f/k/a/NCR Corporation);
- f) Twin Star International, Inc., and;
- g) Everstar Merchandise Co., Limited.
- 6. On September 24, 2024 the Committee selected McDermott Will & Emery LLP as its counsel and Cole Schotz P.C. as its special real estate counsel, efficiency counsel and Delaware counsel.
  - 7. On September 25, 2024 the Committee selected FTI as its financial advisor.
- 8. On November 20, 2024, the Court entered the *Order Authorizing Retention of FTI Consulting, Inc. as Financial Advisor for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors* [Docket No. 1186] (the "**Retention Order**").
- 9. On December 9, 2024, NCR Voyiz Corporation (f/k/a NCR Corporation) resigned from the Committee.

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

10. FTI submits this Application pursuant to the Bankruptcy Rules, the Interim Compensation Procedures, and the Retention Order. By this Application, FTI seeks allowance of compensation for actual and necessary professional services rendered in the amount of \$44,368.40 (80% of \$55,460.50 total fees) and \$0.00 of actual and necessary expenses incurred during the Compensation Period, for a total payment of \$44,368.40 in accordance with the terms of the Interim Compensation Procedures. FTI reserves the right to request, in subsequent fee applications, reimbursement of any additional expenses incurred during the Compensation Period,

as such expenses may not have been captured in FTI's billing system as of the date of filing this Application.

#### **SUMMARY OF FEES**

- 11. The total number of hours expended by FTI professionals and paraprofessionals in performing professional services for the Committee during the Compensation Period was 63.1 hours. Pursuant to the Retention Order, FTI is entitled to monthly compensation for its services provided to the Committee at its current hourly rates, plus reimbursement of reasonable and necessary out of pocket expenses.
- 12. Services rendered by (i) each professional and paraprofessional, (ii) a summary of the time incurred by task, and (iii) detailed time entries during the Compensation Period are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, **Exhibit B**, and **Exhibit C**, respectively. The following paragraphs describe the primary services rendered by FTI during the Compensation Period.

#### 2 – Cash & Liquidity Analysis (34.5 hours)

13. FTI monitored and assessed the Debtors' liquidity and actual performance versus budget on a weekly basis and participated on related diligence calls with the Debtors' advisors. Additionally, FTI prepared reports for the Committee summarizing and analyzing the details of actual results in order to keep the Committee informed of the Debtors' current and projected liquidity position.

#### **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, FTI respectfully requests monthly and interim allowance of compensation for professional services rendered as financial advisor to the Committee in the amount of \$44,368.40 (80% of \$55,460.50 total fees), and \$0.00 for actual and necessary expenses incurred, during the Compensation Period, and payment of total compensation of \$44,368.40 pursuant to

the Interim Compensation Procedures, and such other and further relief that the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: March 31, 2025

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Clifford A. Zucker

Clifford A. Zucker **FTI Consulting, Inc.** 

1166 Avenue of the Americas FL 15 New York, New York, 10036

Telephone: (212) 841-9355

Email: cliff.zucker@fticonsulting.com

 $Financial\ Advisor\ to\ the\ Official\ Committee$ 

of Unsecured Creditors

#### VERIFICATION PURSUANT TO DEL. BANKR. L.R. 2016-1(g) AND 28 U.S.C. § 1746

I, Cliff Zucker, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and after reasonable inquiry, declare as follows:

- 1. I am a Senior Managing Director with the consulting firm FTI Consulting, Inc., together with its wholly owned subsidiaries ("FTI"). FTI has rendered professional services to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") of Big Lots, Inc. and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession.
- 2. I have read the foregoing statement and application of FTI for compensation and reimbursement of expenses (the "Application"). To the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed upon the basis of my participation in this case, as well as after reasonable inquiry, the facts set forth in the Application are true and correct and materially comply with the applicable orders, rules, guidelines, and requirements as set forth by the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Del. Bankr. L.R. 2016-1, and the Office for the United States Trustee.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the forgoing is true and correct, to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

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Executed on: March 31, 2025 FTI CONSULTING, INC.

By: /s/ Cliff Zucker\_\_\_\_\_

Cliff Zucker 1166 Ave of the Americas, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10036 Telephone: 212-841-9355

E-mail: cliff.zucker@fticonsulting.com

Financial Advisors to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Big Lots, Inc.